Japan's Comments on
The Code Commission Report of the September 2017 meeting

Japan would like to express its appreciation to the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (TAHSC) and other relevant Commissions, Working Groups and ad hoc Groups for all the works they have done. Japan also appreciates the TAHSC for providing us the opportunity to comment on the proposed revisions to the texts of Terrestrial Animal Health Code.

Please find our comments on the following texts:

Contents

1. CHAPTER 1.4. ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE

Proposal of amendment to Article 1.4.8. Early warning systems (insertion/~~deletion~~)

Article 1.4.8.

Early warning systems

An *early warning system* is essential for the timely detection, identification and reporting of occurrence, incursion or emergence of *infections* or *infestations*, and should include the following:

1) appropriate coverage of target *animal* populations by the *Veterinary Services*;

2) detection and assessment of unusual animal health incidents suspected of occurrence, incursion or emergence of infections or infestations;

~~2~~3) effective disease investigation and reporting;

~~3~~4) *laboratories* capable of diagnosing and differentiating relevant *infections* or *infestations*;

~~4~~5) training and awareness programmes for *veterinarians*, *veterinary paraprofessionals*, livestock owners or keepers and others involved in handling *animals* from the farm to the *slaughterhouse/abattoir*, for detecting and reporting unusual animal health incidents;

~~5~~6) a legal obligation by relevant stakeholders to report suspected *cases* or *cases* of *notifiable diseases* or *emerging diseases* to the *Veterinary Authority*;

~~6~~7) effective systems of communication between the *Veterinary Authority* and relevant stakeholders;

~~7~~8) a national chain of command.

Early warning systems are an essential component of emergency preparedness.

Rationale

For clarification of steps of Early warning system, Japan would like to propose inserting the sentence between 1) and 2) as above.

As VS has to evaluate animal health incident report by stakeholders for diagnosing and differentiating relevant infections and infestations.

2. CHAPTER 4.3. ZONING AND COMPARTMENTALISATION

Proposal of amendment to Article 4.3.6. Protection zone (insertion)

Article 4.3.6.

Protection zone

[...]

In the event of an occurrence, in a temporary *protection zone*, of a *case* of an *infection* or *infestation* for which it was established, this will not affect the status of the rest of the country or *zone*, provided that the *zone* was established at least two incubation periods before the occurrence, as long as the disease or infestation are transmitted only by animal – animal infection and the surveillance are carried out in accordance with relevant listed disease-speceifc chapter or at an equivalent level.

Rationale

Under the precondition that the disease is only transmitted by animal to animal transmission, the approach of two incubation periods is appropriate. However, it might be difficult to detect disease within two incubation periods, as it is transmitted through other infection route such as vector and the poisoned environment.

Therefore, it is necessary to add these conditions in this Article.

3. CHAPTER 4.X. VACCINATION

Proposal for amendment to Article 4.X.3. Vaccination programmes (insertion/~~deletion~~)

Article 4.X.3.

Vaccination programmes

[...]

2) Emergency *vaccination* provides an adjunct to the application of other essential *biosecurity* and disease control measures and may be applied to control *outbreaks*. Emergency *vaccination* may be used in response to:

a) an *outbreak* in a ~~disease~~ free country or *zone*;

b) an *outbreak* in a country or *zone* that applies systematic *vaccination*, but when ~~vaccines are~~ revaccination is applied to boost existing immunity;

c) an *outbreak* in a country or *zone* that applies systematic *vaccination*, but when the vaccine employed does not provide protection against the strain of the pathogenic agent involved in the *outbreak;*

d) a change in the *risk* of introduction of a pathogenic agent or emergence of a disease in a free country or *zone*.

[...]

Article 4.X.11.

Impact on disease status and management of vaccinated animals

[...]

~~Disease f~~Free countries or *zones* applying systematic or emergency *vaccination* in response to an ~~change in the~~ increased *risk* of occurrence of a disease should inform trading partners and the OIE, as appropriate. In the absence of *cases*, ~~and~~ unless otherwise specified in the relevant *listed disease*-specific chapters, and constancy of the risk are confirmed by exporting country changing the systems according to the vaccination start, *vaccination* of animals does not affect the ~~disease~~ status of the country or *zone*~~,~~ and should not disrupt trade.

Comments

Considering that vaccination may be used in response to change in the risk of introduction or emergence of disease, as described in the Article 4.X.3, Japan would like to re-confirm that, when systematic vaccination or emergency vaccination has been implemented, importing countries have authority to take temporary import suspension in order to evaluate the increased risk that leads an exporting country to implement vaccination program.

4. CHAPTER 6.7. HARMONISATION OF NATIONAL ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE SURVEILLANCE AND MONITORING PROGRAMMES

Proposal for amendment to Article 6.7.4. Sampling (insertion)

Article 6.7.4.

Sampling

23. Sample size

The sample size should be large enough to allow detection or determine prevalence of, or trends in, existing and emerging antimicrobial resistance phenotypes.

The sample should avoid bias and ~~provide a~~ be representative ~~sample~~ of the animal *population*, process, product or other unit of interest whilst taking into account the expected prevalence of the bacteria in the sample type, the expected prevalence of the resistance phenotype and the desired level of precision and confidence.

The sample size calculation in Table 1 is based on independent samples. When bacterial recovery is failed from a sample, that sample should not be counted. If there is any clustering at the *establishment* or animal level, the sample size should be adjusted accordingly.

~~Sample size estimates for prevalence of antimicrobial resistance in a large population are provided in Table 1 below.~~

Table 1. Sample size estimates for prevalence in a large population

	90% Level of confidence			95% Level of confidence		
Expected Prevalence of antimicrobial resistance	**Desired precision**			**Desired precision**		
	10%	5%	1%	10%	5%	1%
10%	24	97	2,429	35	138	3,445
20%	43	173	4,310	61	246	6,109
30%	57	227	5,650	81	323	8,003
40%	65	260	6,451	92	369	9,135
50%	68	270	6,718	96	384	9,512
60%	65	260	6,451	92	369	9,135
70%	57	227	5,650	81	323	8,003
80%	43	173	4,310	61	246	6,109
90%	24	97	2,429	35	138	3,445

Rationale

Japan proposes to add the following sentence, “When bacterial recovery is failed from a sample, that sample should not be counted”, because the “sample” in this chapter

indicates faeces, caeca etc. as stated in sampling strategies (namely not the isolated bacteria) and Table 1 shows the case that bacterial recovery from the sample is 100%.

In association with this revision, Japan considers “Expected prevalence of antimicrobial resistance” would be more precise than “Expected prevalence” in the Table 1, because the deletion of the sentence including the words, “prevalence of antimicrobial resistance”, which was the heading of this table, might make it necessary to differentiate the words “Expected prevalence” in the Table 1 from the words “Expected prevalence of bacteria”.

5. CHAPTER 6.8. MONITORING OF THE QUANTITIES AND USAGE PATTERNS OF ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS USED IN FOOD-PRODUCING ANIMALS

Article 6.8.1bis.

Definitions

For the purposes of the *Terrestrial Code*,

Therapeutic use of antimicrobial agents means the administration of an *antimicrobial agent* to an individual or a group of *animals* to treat, control or prevent *infection* or disease:

– to treat means to administer an *antimicrobial agent* to an individual or a group of *animals* showing clinical signs of an infectious disease;

– to control means to administer an *antimicrobial agent* to a group of *animals* containing sick *animals* and healthy *animals* (presumed to be infected), to minimise or resolve clinical signs and to prevent further spread of the disease;

– to prevent means to administer, using an appropriate dose and for a limited, defined duration, an *antimicrobial agent* to an individual or a group of *animals* at risk of developing a specific *infection* or in a specific situation where disease is likely to occur if the drug is not administered.

Nontherapeutic use of antimicrobial agents means the administration of *antimicrobial agents* to *animals* for any purpose other than to treat, control or prevent *infection* or disease; it includes growth promotion.

Growth promotion means the administration of *antimicrobial agents* to *animals* in their feed or water to increase the rate of weight gain or the efficiency of feed utilisation.

Comment

Japan fully supports these definitions which clarify the scope of “therapeutic use” and “nontherapeutic use” and facilitate member countries to collect data on AMU because differentiation among the antimicrobial use for treatment, control and prevention is difficult in the field.

6. CHAPTER 7.X. ANIMAL WELFARE AND PIG PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.X.5. Recommendations (insertion)

Article 7.X.5.

Recommendations

Ensuring good welfare of pigs is contingent on several management factors, including system design, environmental management, and animal management practices which include responsible husbandry and provision of appropriate care. Serious problems can arise in any system if one or more of these elements are lacking.

Articles 7.X.6. to 7.X. 276. provide recommendations for measures applied to pigs.

Each recommendation in Article 7.X.6. to 7.X.24. includes a list of relevant animal ~~outcome~~-based criteria (or measurables) derived from Article 7.X.4.

This does not exclude other criteria(or measurables) being used where or when appropriate.

Rationale

For consistency with paragraph 3, Japan would like to propose to revise as above.

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.X.9. Feeding and provision of water (insertion /~~deletion~~)

Article 7.X.9~~10~~.

Feeding and provision of water~~ing of animals~~

The amount of feed and nutrients pigs require in any management system is affected by factors such as climate, the nutritional composition and quality of the diet, the age, gender, genetics, size and physiological state of the pigs (e.g. pregnancy, lactation, growth), and their state of health, growth rate, previous feeding levels and level of activity and exercise.

All pigs should receive adequate ~~quantities~~ quantity and quality of feed and nutrients each day to enable each pig to:

– maintain good health;

– meet its physiological ~~and behavioural~~ requirements ~~demands;~~ and,

~~– meet its requirements for foraging (Bergeron *et al.*, 2008; Brouns *et al.*, 1994; Ramonet *et al.*, 1999; Robert *et al.*, 1993 and 1997).~~

– ~~avoid metabolic and nutritional disorders.~~

Feed and water should be provided in such a way as to prevent ~~undue~~ excessive or injurious competition ~~and injury~~.

~~Pigs should be fed a diet with sufficient~~Take into consideration the provision of sufficient amount or appropriate particle size of fibrous feedstuffs in order to reduce ~~as much as possible~~ the occurrence of gastric ulcers (Herskin *et al.*, 2016; Hancock et al., 2001).

Rationale

Japan proposes to delete “meet its requirement for foraging” because it has been already defined in the Article 7.X.10. (Environmental enrichment) and it is also appropriate for clarity of the Article 7.X.9. (Feeding and provision of water) only to mention elements related to quality and quantity of feed and nutrients.

Based on the following reference, Japan proposes to consider not only the amount of fibrous feedstuffs but also the particle size of feedstuffs in order to avoid gastric ulcers.

Joe D. Hancock and Keith C. Behnke, Use of Ingredient and Diet Processing Technologies (Grinding, Mixing, Pelleting, and Extruding) to Produce Quality Feeds for Pigs, Swine Nutrition 469-497.2001

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.X.11. Prevention of abnormal behaviour (insertion/~~deletion~~)

Article 7.X.11~~12~~.

Prevention of abnormal behaviour

In pig production there ~~are~~ is a number of abnormal behaviours that can be prevented or minimised with appropriate management procedures.

Many of these problems are multifactorial and minimising their occurrence requires an examination of the whole environment and of several management factors. ~~However some r~~Recommendations ~~to~~ Management procedures that may reduce the~~ir~~ occurrence of some of these behavioural problems include:

1) Oral stereotypies (e.g. bar biting, sham chewing, excessive drinking) ~~in adult pigs can~~may be minimised by providing environmental enrichment and increasing feeding time and satiety by increasing fibre content in the diet or foraging roughage (Robert *et al.*,1997; Bergeron *et al.*, 2000).

Rationale

As noted in the Article7.X.1 (Definitions) “developed stereotypies may not resolve despite later changes the environment or other treatment”, It is difficult to say “oral

stereotypies can be minimised". Japan proposes to replace 'can' with 'may' for consistency with next paragraph 2) and 3).

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.X.12. Housing (including outdoor production systems) (insertion)

Article 7.X.12~~6~~.

Housing (including outdoor production systems)

When new facilities to accommodate pigs are planned or existing facilities are modified, professional advice on design in regards to welfare and health of animals should be sought.

Housing systems and their components should be designed, constructed and regularly inspected and maintained in a manner that reduces the risk of injury, disease ~~or~~ and stress for pigs. Facilities should ~~to~~ allow for the safe, efficient and humane management and movement of pigs. In systems where pigs could be exposed to adverse weather conditions they should have access to shelter to avoid thermal stress and sunburn.

There should be a separate pen or area where sick and injured animals or animals that exhibit abnormal behaviour can be isolated, treated and monitored. Certain animals may need to be kept individually. When a separated space is provided, this should accommodate all the needs of the animal e.g. recumbent or lame animals or animals with severe wounds may require additional bedding or an alternative floor surface, and water and ~~food~~ feed ~~must~~ should be within reach. However, there might be an emergency situation when the animal should be isolated immediately even when the separate space does not adequately accommodate all the needs of the animal.

Rationale

It may be prioritized to move the animal to the isolated area promptly over the area where all the needs of animal are accomodated.

Proposal for amendment to Article 7.X.19. Farrowing and lactation (insertion)

Article 7.X.19.

Farrowing and lactation

Sows and gilts need time to adjust to their farrowing accommodation before farrowing. If equipment is not enough to provide appropriate farrowing accommodation, n~~N~~esting material should be ~~provided~~ available to sows and gilts where possible for at least one day prior to ~~some days before~~ farrowing (Yun *et al.*, 2014; Lawrence *et al.*, 1994; Jarvis *et al.*, 1998). Sows and gilts should be observed frequently around their expected farrowing

times. As some sows and gilts need assistance during farrowing, there should be sufficient space and competent staff.

Rationale

Equipment such as farrowing crates can provide an appropriate accommodation because of temperature control, stockade to prevent attack and keeping clean condition. In addition, using nesting materials might result in increasing the risk of exposure to pathogen and compromising the welfare of sows, gilts and piglets.

Proposal for amendment to Article 7.X.22. Genetic selection (insertion/~~deletion~~)

Article 7.X.22.

Genetic selection

Welfare and health considerations should balance any decisions on productivity and growth rate when choosing a breed or hybrid for a particular location or production system.

Selective breeding can improve the welfare of pigs for example by selection to improve maternal behaviour, piglet viability, temperament and resistance to stress and disease and to reduce tail biting and aggressive behaviour (Turner *et al.*, 2006). Including ~~social effects~~characteristics related to social behaviour into breeding programmes may also reduce negative social interactions and increase positive ones and may have major positive effects on group-housed animals. (Rodenburg *et al.*, 2010)

Rationale

Japan would like to revise as above to improve clarity.

Proposal for amendment to Article 7.X.27. Humane killing (insertion)

Article 7.X.27.

~~**Euthanasia (Humane killing)**~~

Allowing a sick or injured animal to linger unnecessarily is unacceptable. Therefore, for sick and injured pigs a prompt diagnosis should be made to determine whether the animal should be treated or humanely killed.

The decision to kill an animal humanely and the procedure itself should be undertaken by a competent person.

For a description of acceptable methods for humane *killing* of pigs see Chapter 7.6.

The *establishment* should have documented procedures following the guidance from

veterinarian and the necessary equipment for on-farm humane *killing*. Staff should be trained in humane *killing* procedures appropriate for each class of pigs.

Rationale

The procedures of humane killing needs to be documented following the guidance from a veterinarian.

Correction

7. CHAPTER 7.Z. ANIMAL WELFARE AND LAYING HEN PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.Z.3. Criteria or measurables for the welfare of pullets or hens (insertion/~~deletion~~)

Article 7.Z.3.

Criteria or measurables for the welfare of pullets or hens

The welfare of pullets or hens should be assessed using outcome-based measurables. Consideration should also be given to the resources provided and the design of the system. Outcome-based measurables, specifically animal-based measurables, can be useful indicators of *animal welfare*. The use of these indicators and the appropriate thresholds should be adapted to the different situations where pullets or hens are managed, also taking into account the strain of bird concerned.

Criteria that can be measured in the farm setting include body and plumage condition, egg shell condition, mortality and morbidity rates, etc. The age at which abnormalities of these criteria are observed can help to determine the origin. Other conditions such as bone and foot problems, disease*, infection* or *infestation* can also be assessed at depopulation or during routine sampling. It is recommended that values for welfare measurables be determined with reference to appropriate national, sectorial or regional standards for pullets or hens.

The following outcome-based criteria ~~and~~or measurables are useful indicators of pullet or hen welfare:

1. Behaviour

   The presence or absence of certain chicken behaviours could indicate an animal welfare problem, including fear, pain or sickness. In addition, chickens have evolved behaviours that they are highly motivated to perform and a good understanding of normal chicken behaviour [Nicol, 2015], including their social interactions [Estevez *et al.*, 2007; Rodríguez-Aurrekoetxea A. and Estevez I., 2014], is required. Some behaviours may not be uniquely indicative of one type of problem; they may be exhibited for a variety of reasons.

   e) Injurious feather pecking and cannibalism

   Injurious feather pecking can result in significant feather loss and may lead to cannibalism. Cannibalism is the tearing of the flesh of another bird, and can result in severe injury. Injurious feather pecking and cannibalism can also spread to other birds in the flock [Newberry, 2004]. These behaviours can have multifactorial causes [Hartcher, 2016; Estevez, 2015; Nicol *et al.*, 2013; Rodenburg, 2013; Lambton, 2013].

Rationale

Correction

According to the following references, Japan proposes to add an important behaviour of injurious feather pecking and cannibalism.

NEWBERRY RC., Cannibalism. In Welfare of the Laying Hens (Perry, GC. ed.), pp. 239-258.CABI Publishing, Oxfordshire, UK, 2004.

4. Foot problems

Hyperkeratosis and bumblefoot are painful conditions associated with inappropriate flooring [Lay *et al.*, 2001; Abrahamsson and Tauson, 1995; Abrahamsson and Tauson, 1997).

Excessive claw growth, broken claws and toe injuries affect locomotion and may be associated with pain [EFSA, 2005].

Contact dermatitis affects skin surfaces that have prolonged contact with wet litter or other wet flooring surfaces [Tauson and Abrahamson, 1996] Especially contact with manure can increase the risk of Bumble foot[Taylor and Hurnik, 1994; Abrahamsson and Tauson, 1995; Tauson et al, 1999; Tauson 2002; Blokhuis et al, 2007; Shimmura et al, 2010].

Foot problems are usually manifested as blackened skin progressing to erosion and fibrosis on the lower surface of the footpads and at the back of the hocks. If severe, the foot and hock lesions may contribute to locomotion problems and lead to secondary *infections.* Scoring systems for foot problems have been developed [Blatchford *et al.*, 2016].

Rationale

According to the following references, contact with manure increases the risk of contact dermatitis such as Bumble foot.

TAYLOR,A.A. and J. F. HURNIK, The effect of long-term housing in an aviary and battery cages on the physical condition of laying hens: body weight, feather condition, claw length, foot lesions, and tibia strength. Poult. Sci.,37:268-273.1994.

ABRAHAMSSON, P. and R. TAUSON, Aviary systems and conventional cages for laying hens: Effects on production, egg quality, health and bird location in three hybrids. Acta Agric. Scand., Sec. A, Anim. Sci.,45:191-203.1995.

TAUSON, R., A. WAHLSTROM and P. ABRAHAMSSON, Effects of two floor housing systems and cages on health, production, and fear response in layer. Appl. Poult. Research, 8:152-159.1999.

TAUSON, R.,Furnished cages and aviaries: production and health. World's Poult. Sci.J.,58:49-63.2002.

BLOKHUIS, H.J., T. FIKS Van NIEKERK, W. BESSEI, A. ELSON, D. GUÉMENÉ, J.B. KJAER, G.A. MARIALEVRINO, C.J. NICOL, R. TAUSON, C.A. WEEKS and H.A. VAN DE WEERD, The LayWel project: welfare implications of changes in production system for laying hens. World's Poult. Sci. J., 63: 101-114.2007.

T.SHIMMURA, S. HIRAHARA, T. AZUMA, T. SUZUKI, Y. EGUCHI, K. UETAKE and T. TANAKA, Multi-factorial investigation of various housing systems for laying hens. British Poultry Science Volume 51, Number 1 (February 2010), pp. 31-42.

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.Z.9. Flooring (~~deletion~~)

Article 7.Z.9.

Flooring

The flooring for the birds should be easy to clean and disinfect and not cause harm or damage to them.

The slope and design of the floor should allow birds to express normal locomotion and comfort behaviours. The floors should support the birds adequately, prevent injuries and ensure that manure does not contaminate other birds. Changes of flooring types from pullet to layer housing should be avoided.

~~The provision of loose and dry litter material is desirable to encourage dust bathing and foraging by pullets and hens.~~ When litter is provided it should be managed to minimise any detrimental effects on welfare and health. Litter should be replaced or adequately treated when required to prevent *diseases, infections* and *infestations*.

Outcome-based measurables: comfort behaviour, ~~dust bathing,~~ foot problems, ~~foraging,~~ incidence of diseases*, infections* and *infestations*, injury rates and severity, locomotion, performance, plumage condition.

Rationale

For preventing duplication and improving clarification among Article 7.Z.9., Article 7.Z.10., and Article 7.Z.11., Japan proposes to delete "The provision of loose and dry litter material is desirable to encourage foraging by pullets and hens."

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.Z.10. Dust bathing areas (insertion)

Article 7.Z.10.

Dust bathing areas

When dust bathing areas are offered, they should provide suitable friable materials, designed and positioned to encourage dust bathing, allow synchronised behaviour, prevent undue competition and not cause damage or injuries. Dust bathing areas should be easy to inspect and clean [Lentfer *et al.*, 2011]. The provision of loose and dry litter material is desirable to encourage dust bathing by pullets and hens.

Rationale

For preventing duplication and improving clarification between Article 7.Z.9.and Article 7.Z.10, Japan proposes to add “The provision of loose and dry litter material is desirable to encourage dust bating by pullets and hens.”

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.Z.11. Foraging areas (insertion)

Article 7.Z.11.

Foraging areas

When foraging areas are offered, they should provide suitable materials, designed and positioned to encourage foraging, allow synchronised behaviour, prevent undue competition and not cause damage or injuries. Foraging areas should be easy to inspect and clean. The provision of loose and dry litter material is desirable to encourage foraging by pullets and hens.

Outcome-based measurables: foraging, injurious feather pecking and cannibalism, injury rate and severity, spatial distribution.

Rationale

For preventing duplication and improving clarification between Article 7.Z.9.and Article 7.Z.11., Japan proposes to add “The provision of loose and dry litter material is desirable to encourage foraging by pullets and hens.”

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.Z.19. Prevention and control of injurious feather pecking and cannibalism (insertion/~~deletion~~)

Article 7.Z.19.

Prevention and control of injurious feather pecking and cannibalism

Injurious feather pecking and cannibalism are challenges in pullet and hen production.

Management methods that may reduce the risk of occurrence include:

– managing light in rearing and lay [Nicol *et al.*, 2013],

– choosing a suitable genetic strain [Craig and Muir, 1996; Kjaer and Hocking, 2004],

– influencing age of onset of lay [Green *et al.*, 2010],

– providing foraging materials in rearing and lay [Huber-Eicher and Wechsler, 1998],

– adapting ~~diet~~kind and form of feed in rearing and lay [Lambton *et al.*, 2010],

Rationale

For improving clarity, Japan proposes to add ‘a suitable’ and replace ‘diet’ with ‘kind’.

Proposal of amendment to Article 7.Z.21. Painful interventions (~~deletion~~)

Article 7.Z.21.

Painful interventions

Painful interventions, such as beak trimming, should not be practised unless ~~absolutely~~ necessary and pain mitigation interventions should be used.

Rationale

The following references demonstrate the increase in mortality rate caused by cannibalism and in the risk of feather pecking and cannibalism of a flock, in which beak trimming was not practised. Therefore, beak trimming can be considered for improving welfare.

Japan proposes to delete ‘absolutely’ because the term is too restrictive.

FIKS-VAN NIEKERK, G.C.M., Organic poultry farming: a small but growing concept. Proceedings of the 6th European Symposium on Poultry Welfare,pp35-37.2001.

NICOL, C. J., C. PÖTZSCH, K. LEWIS and L. E. GREEN, Matched concurrent case-control study of risk factors for feather pecking in hens on free-range commercial farms in the UK. Bri. Poult. Sci., 44:515-523.2003.

BLOKHUIS, H.J., T. FIKS Van NIEKERK, W. BESSEI, A. ELSON, D. GUÉMENÉ, J.B. KJAER, G.A. MARIALEVRINO, C.J. NICOL, R. TAUSON, C.A. WEEKS and H.A. VAN DE WEERD, The LayWel project: welfare implications of changes in production system

for laying hens. World's Poult. Sci. J., 63: 101-114.2007.

ABRAHAMSSON, P., O. FOSSUM and R. TAUSON, Health of layers in an aviary system over five batches of birds. Acta Vet. Scand., 39: 367-379.1998.

TAUSON, R., A. WAHLSTROM and P. ABRAHAMSSON, Effects of two floor housing systems and cages on health, production, and fear response in layer. Appl. Poult. Research, 8:152-159.1999.

TAUSON, R.,Furnished cages and aviaries: production and health. World's Poult. Sci.J.,58:49-63.2002.

HADORN, R., A. GLOOR and H. WIEDMER. Effect of beak trimming on brown growing pullets and laying hens. Agrarforschung, 7:62-67.2000.

Proposal of amendment throughout the draft chapter (insertion/~~deletion~~)

Article
~~Outcome~~Animal-based criteria(or measurable)

Rationale

Japan would like to revise as above for consistency with adopted chapter of animals.

8. CHAPTER 15.1. INFECTION WITH AFRICAN SWINE FEVER VIRUS

Comments for Article 15.1.22. Procedures for the inactivation of ASFV in meat

Article 15.1.22.

Procedures for the inactivation of ASFV in meat

[...]

2. Dry cured pig meat

Meat should be cured with salt and dried for a minimum of six months.

[...]

Rationale

Japan would like to insist that the requirement for treatment of dry cured pig meat should be described more specifically as the Chapter 8.8.31, as the risk varies depending on treatments.

We believe this article should be removed if there is not appropriate scientific rationale.

9. ANNEX 36 OIE ad hoc GROUP ON VETERINARY PARAPROFESSIONALS/JULY 2017

Comments

Japan appreciates the effort made by the ad hoc Group on VPPs and generally support the proposal regarding the 16 key spheres of activities identified and related competencies with a view to strengthening effectiveness of national veterinary services for the protection of animal and public health.

However, as noted at the Regional Conference on VPPs in Asia held from 6 to 8 December 2017, there is significant diversity in the status of VPPs among member countries, in terms of their roles in Veterinary Services, qualifications required and authorities granted, and it seems almost impossible to uniformize legal status of VPPs in Veterinary Services of each member country. Therefore, Japan would like to request the Secretariat to take flexible approach on legal status of VPPs and not to take uniformed approach.